

Message Text

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FOR WILSON, USOAS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, OAS
SUBJ:CONCLUSION OF AOSGA INFORMAL DIALOGUES

1. SUMMARY: SECRETARY VANCE DEPARTED GRENADA AT 2 PM,
JUNE 16, FOLLOWING FINAL SESSION OF INFORMAL DIALOGUES.
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SECRETARY COMPLETED FULL SCHEDULE OF BILATERAL TALKS
DURING COURSE OF MORNING WHILE AMBASSADOR MCGEE RE-
PRESENTED USG AT CONCLUSION OF DIALOGUES. HUMAN RIGHTS
CONTINUED AS MAIN TOPIC BUT BELIZE EMERGED AS INCREASINGLY
SENSITIVE ISSUE, MOVING OFF HIDDEN AGENDA INTO COMMITTEE
DISCUSSIONS. AFTERNOON SESSION OF POLITICAL-JURIDICAL
COMMITTEE DISCUSSED EXTRADITION TREATY AND NON-AUTONOMOUS
TERRITORIES. UNDER AGENDA ITEM 19, JAMICAN AMBASSADOR
RATTRAY PROTESTED FACT BELIZE OMITTED FROM REPORT ON
NON-AUTONOMOUS TERRITORIES. BARBADOS, SURINAM,
PANAMA AND GRENADA JOINED IN. EMOTIONAL STATEMENTS

MADE ON BOTH SIDES WITH PITTY (PANAMA) HOTLY IN THE LEAD AND GUATEMALA JUST BEHIND, CHARGING COMMONWEALTH CONSPIRACY TO PERPETUATE NEO-COLONIALISM. IN THE END, REPORT WAS ACCEPTED AS WRITTEN. COMMITTEE I THEN BEGAN CONSIDERATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS UNDER AGENDA ITEM 21.

2. STARTING WITH IAHRC CHAIRMAN AGUILAR'S COMPLEMENTARY ON ANNUAL REPORT OF COMMISSION. CHILE AND CUBA REPORTS WILL BE DISCUSSED TOMORROW MORNING, FOLLOWED BY AGENDA ITEM 22, CHILE'S PROPOSAL FOR "MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN HUMAN RIGHTS". ARGENTINA SUCEEDED BY SIZEABLE VOTE IN TYING ITEM 29, INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM TO DISCUSSION OF ALL HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AS RELATED TOPIC. END SUMMARY.

3. INFORMAL DIALOGUES CONTINUED INTO EVENING OF JUNE 15 AND CONCLUDED MORNING OF JUNE 16. MOST IMPRESSIVE SPEAKER OF LATE EVENING, AFTER REPORTING CABLE SENT, WAS BARBADOS FOREIGN MINISTER HENRY FORDE, WHO MADE FORECEFUL STATEMENT IN FAVOR OF HUMAN RIGHTS, INDEPENDENCE FOR BELIZE, ADMISSION OF GUYANA, RESTRUCTURING OF THE OAS, NEW FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS, END OF OPEC EXCLUSION OF OF ECUADOR/VENEZUELA AND FAIRER TREATMENT FOR WOMEN IN NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

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GUATEMALA GAVE PREDICTABLE SPEECH STRESSING NEED FOR JOINT CONSIDERATION OF TERRORISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS, CALLING BELIZE A SENSITIVE ISSUE CONCERNING AN OCCUPIED TERRITORY, NOT A COLONY, AND EXPRESSING GUATEMALA'S HOPE FOR AN HONORABLE AND JUST SOLUTION. PARAGUAY'S FOREIGN MINISTER FOLLOWED BY AFFIRMING HIS COUNTRY'S STATUS AS A DEVELOPING BUT HIGHLY CIVILIZED COUNTRY AND DEFENDING ITS ACTIONS TOWARD THE IAHRC. HE SAID GOP WAS STILL CONSIDERING WHETHER TO ALLOW IAHRC TO CARRY OUT AN ON-SITE INVESTIGATION AN EMERGENCY RECOURSE WHICH THEY HAD THE SOVEREIGN RIGHT TO CONSENT TO OR REFUSE. SURINAM THEN MADE A BRIEF STATEMENT, NOTING THAT IT HOPED THE DISCUSSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS COULD BE CARRIED OUT WITHOUT DAMAGING THE OAS, ATTACHED THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION, AND FAVORED A NEW CANAL TREATY WHICH WOULD SAFEGUARD THE SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF PANAMA. BOLIVIA CLOSED THE SESSION SPEAKING OF ITS DESIRE FOR CLOSE RELATIONS AMONG AMERICA NATIONS, EXPECIALLY WITH ITS OWN NEIGHBORS, AND DESCRIBED IN DETAIL ITS DIALOGUE WITH CHILE AND PERU REGARDING AN OUTLET TO THE SEA. THE COSTA RICAN FOREIGN MINISTER GAVE A STATEMENT WHICH SIGNALED HE WAS READY TO COMPROMISE ON CRUCIAL POINTS. WHILE HE ADVOCATED THAT ALL MEMEBERS COOPERATE WITH THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS

COMMISSION HE POINTED OUT THAT THE COMMISSION MUST BE SENSITIVE TO ITS EXPLOITATION BY GROUPS SEEKING TO SLANDER HEMISPHERIC GOVERNMENTS. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THE COMMISSION HAS NOT BEEN CAREFUL ENOUGH IN SIFTING EVIDENCE AND TRIED TO RELY ON SECONDARY SOURCES.

5. INFORMAL DIALOGUES CONCLUDED FOLLOWING MORNING WITH PRESENTATIONS BY ARGENTINA, COLOMBIA AND GRENADA. FONMIN MONTES OFFERED PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF ARGENTINE RESOLUTION LINKING TERRORISM WITH HUMAN RIGHTS, HEAVILY STRESSING PROBLEM.

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4. COMMITTEE I (POLITICAL/JURIDICAL), BEGAN MEETING IN AFTERNOON ON LENGTHY LIST OF AGENDA ITEMS. HEATED DEBATE ERUPTED WHEN REPORT ON NON-AUTONOMOUS TERRITORIES IN THE AMERICAS CAME UNDER CONSIDERATION. JAMICA, BARBADOS AND GRENADA PROTESTED OMISSION OF BELIZE FROM LIST OF TERRITORIES AND CRITICIZED SECRETARIAT'S BIAS IN PREPARING DOCUEMENT. ASSISTANT SECGEN ZELAYA CORONADA (GUATEMALAN NATIONAL) EXPLAINED THAT ONLY CERTAIN STATES ON LIST BECAUSE 1974 GA INSTRUCTED SECRETARIAT TO PREPARE ANNUAL REPORT BASED ON 1948 DOCUMENT LABELLING BELIZE AND MALVINAS (FALKLAND) ISLANDS AS "OCCUPIED TERRITORIES OF THE AMERICAS" RATHER THAN COLONIES EN ROUTE TO INDEPENCENCE. GUATEMALA'S AMBASSADOR CASTILLO RESPONDED ANGRILY THAT MATTER WAS STRICTLY BETWEEN HIS COUNTRY AND OCCUPYING POWER. HE DENOUNCED CONSPIRACY OF BRITISH COMMENWEATHLY OF NATIONS TO PERPETUATE NEO-COLONIALISM IN THE AMERICAS. SECRETARIAT WAS UNDER PROPER INSTRUCTIONS TO OMIT BELIZE AND ISLAS MALVINAS BECAUSE 1948 DECISION STILL STANDS AND WOULD HAVE TO BE OVERTURNED BY MAJORITY VOTE TO ADD OCCUPIED TERRITORIES TO LIST. PANAMA'S AMB PITTY HARSHLY CRITICIZED GUATEMALA AND LUMPED ZALAYA AND CASTILLO TOGETHER AS PARTISANS OF BELIZEAN EXCLUSION. PITTY CONGRATULATED US ON WORKING TO BRING COLONIAL OCCUPATION OF PANAMA'S SOVEREIGN TERRITORY TO AN END AND COMPARED IT UNFAVORABLY WITH GUATEMALA'S EFFORTS TO TAKE OVER A FREE PEOPLE IN BELIZE. HE RIDICULED GUATEMALA'S BRAVERY IN THREATENING ARMED ATTACK ON COUNTRY DEFENDED BY ONLY 200 POLICEMEN AND READ FROM GUATEMALAN DOCUMENT THREATENING DEATH TO ANY CITIZEN WHO CRITICIZED BELIZE TAKEOVER CAMPAIGN. A GOOD EXAMPLE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN GUATEMALA, PITTY SAID. SURINAM SPOKE IN FAVOR OF SELF-DETERMINATION FOR BELIZE BUT CALLED FOR AN END TO BITTER RECRIMINATIONS IN THE OAS. GREANADA, TRINIDAD/TOBAGO, JAMICA AND BARBADOS MADE ANOTHER ROUND OF STRONG STATEMENT ATTACKING CONFIDENTIAL

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GUATEMALA AND CALLING FOR INCLUSION OF BELIZE IN REPORT, WHICH ULTIMATELY THEY ACCEPTED BUT PROMISED TO WORK FOR REVERSED OF 1948/DECISION ON TERRITORIAL LISTING AGENDA ITEM 20, REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON TRANSNATIONALS, ACCEPTED WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT DEBATE. US DEL WILL MAKE PREPARED STATEMENT WHEN ITEM COMES UP FOR FINAL APPROVAL IN PLENARY NEXT WEEK.

ITEM 21, REPORTS OF THE IAHRC, BEGAN WITH LENGTHY COMMENTARY BY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN AGUILAR ON ITS ANNUAL REPORT. HE READ AND COMMENTED ON PARTS OF THE REPORT DEALING WITH DISAPPEARANCES, COMPLICITY OF AUTHORITIES IN HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES AND CONTINUING INCIDENCE OF 5945743, DEPRIVATION OF LEGAL REMEDIES AND DENIAL OF MEDICAL AID TO POLITICAL PRISONERS. ONCE AGAIN THIS YEAR, AGUILAR'S REPORT WAS DAMNING RECITAL OF CRIMES AGAINST THE PERSON IN A NUMBER (UNSPECIFIED) OF AMERICAN STATES. SOME WERE DERELICT IN THEIR FIRST DUTY, TO PROTECT THE LIVES OF CITIZENS AND RESIDENT FOREIGNERS IN THEIR TERRITORY. BEYOND TORTURE AND MEDICAL DEPRIVATION, HE LISTED AS OTHER SERIOUS PROBLEMS: OFFICIAL PRESSURE ON JUDGES AND PROCECUTORS TO IGNORE ABUSES; THREATS AGAINST DEFENSE LAWYERS IN POLITICAL CASES; DEPRIVATION OF NATIONALITY WITH ALL ITS UNFORTUNATE CONSEQUENCES; FORCED EXILE WITHOUT LEGAL RECOURSE; REPRISALS AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS; DENIAL OF PASSPORTS AND RIGHT TO EMIGRATE.

AGUILAR SAID THE COMMISSION DOES NOT OPERATE IN A VACUUM; IT KNOWS SOME OF THESE COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN ON THE BRINK OF CIVIL WAR; COMMISSION MEMBERS LIVE IN THESE COUNTRIES AND KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING; THEY KNOW HOW SERIOUS THE PROBLEMS ARE BUT KNOW COMPLICITY OF AUTHORITIES IN PARAMILITARY CRIMES IN MAKING MATTERS WORSE. COMMISSION IS AWARE THAT CIVIL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS ARE IMPORTANT TOO BUT IT HAS CONCENTRATED

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EXCLUSIVELY ON ELEMENTARY RIGHTS OF PERSON TO LIFE AND LIBERTY. WITHOUT THESE, OTHER RIGHTS CANNOT BE SECURED. WORK OF COMMISSION HAS INCREASED TWENTY-FOLD IN LAST FIVE YEARS BUT COMMISSION HAS SAME BUDGET AND STAFF TODAY TO HANDLE 2,000 CASES AS AGAINST 200. NEW BUDGET FOR JULY 1977 SUPPLEMENTARY IS BEFORE THE OAS SECRETARIAT. IT PROVIDES FOR SEVERAL NEW POSITIONS AND WOULD ALLOW COMMISSION TO RESUME SOME OF THE EDUCATIONAL/RESEARCH WORK IT HAS BEEN FORCED TO ABANDON IN RECENT YEARS. AGUILAR ENDED AFTERNOON PRESENTATION WITH A PLEA FOR SUPPORT OF BUDGET REQUEST WHICH IS NOW BEFORE COMMITTEE FOUR OF THE AOSGA.

AGUILAR WILL CONTINUE PRESENTATION TOMORROW MORNING OF SPECIAL REPORTS ON CHILE AND CUBA, FOLLOWED BY GENERAL DISCUSSION OF ALL THREE IAHRC REPORTS, CHILE'S 90 PAGE RESPONSE, CHILE'S AGENDA ITEM 22 ("STRENGTHENING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS") AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC'S ITEM 29 "INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM". WORTH NOTING THAT CHILEAN DELEGATION ABANDONED ITS PLACE AT THE TABLE AND RETIRED TO BACK ROWS OF HALL AS AGUILAR BEGAN TO SPEAK, A CALCULATED INSULT OBSERVED BY ALL.

COMMENT: LIEVANO'S DRAFT IS BODY BLOW TO THE COLLECTIVE EFFORT TO PUT TOGETHER A WORTHY HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION. NOT ONLY DOES HIS DRAFT ASSERT THE "OBLIGATIONS OF EACH STATE TO PROTECT AND RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS HAS NOT BEEN DELEGATED BY THE INTER-AMERICAN OR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO ANY ONE STATE IN PARTICULAR". (A DIRECT SLAP AT THE 7.S.) IT ALSO CALLS ATTENTION TO THE "DEFICIENCIES AND LIMITATIONS" OF THE IAHRC. THIS CONFUSED RESOLUTION HAS NO CHANCE OF SURVIVAL BUT IT WILL ASSIST SOUTHERN CONE IN FOCUSING DEBATE ON SUPPOSED SHORTCOMINGS OF IAHRC AND ALLEGED U.S. INTERVENTION IN INTERNAL

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AFFAIRS. FACIO'S CRITICISM OF IAHRC IS CALCULATED TO PUT HIM FIRMLY IN THE ROLE OF LEADER AND BROKER -- A DUBIOUS TACTIC.

THE ENGLISH SPEAKING CARIBBEAN STATES ARE SHOWING THAT AFTER SEVERAL YEARS OF FEELING ILL AT EASE AND OUT OF PLACE IN A LATIN CLUB, THEY HAVE FINALLY MASTERED THE BYZANTINE RULES OF THE OAS. THEY ARE NOT MOVING WITH EASE AND CONFIDENCE. THEY ARE TALKING PRIVATELY OF INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION STATING THAT BELIZE IS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY AND NOT AN OCCUPIED STATE. INTRODUCING THE BELIZE ISSUE HAS FURTHER COMPLICATED AND INFLAMED THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE..JAMAICA, TRINDAD, BARBADOS AND SURINAM, WHO ARE FLAILING A RELUCTANT ASSEMBLY ON BELIZE ARE ALL SOLIDLY IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS CAMP.

MCGEE
UNQUOTE VANCE

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